



BernCo at a Glance E-newsletter

Volume 3 | Sept. 23, 2020



CORONAVIRUS [COVID-19]

BERNALILLO COUNTY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

[Click to visit website](#)

Do you know the difference between self-isolation and self-quarantine?

The answer to this question and many more are in the *Policies for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19*. Click [here](#) to learn more.

www.BernCo.gov/coronavirus

COVID-19 Public Health Requirements

- **Foremost, please stay home if you are sick. Period.**
- Masks are mandatory in public, non-compliance can result in a \$100 fine
- For updated travel restrictions click [here](#).
- Practice social distancing -- be aware of your surroundings and others near you
- Adhere to the six-foot rule and stay at home except as needed for grocery shopping, medical assistance and exercise
- Limit group contact to 10 or fewer people
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash

New Mexico Department of Health:

- **New Mexicans with COVID-19 related questions should call the coronavirus hotline at 855-600-3453**
- **Non-COVID-19 related questions or concerns, call 833-551-0518**
[NMDOH COVID-19 Public Dashboard](#) -- the data dashboard includes county-by-county breakdowns of positive cases by age, gender and ethnicity.

Up-to-date information about state mandates and information:

www.newmexico.gov.

Information and resources from the CDC regarding coronavirus COVID-19:

www.cdc.gov.

To read or download CDC fact sheets click [here](#).

[NMConnect smartphone app for all New Mexicans](#) ([click to learn more](#))

Employee Wellness Act Takes Effect Oct. 1

The Employee Wellness Act, also known as the Paid Time Off ordinance, is a legal requirement approved by the Bernalillo County Commission directing employers, with two or more employees, to offer paid time off to those employees.



Bernalillo County Employee Wellness Act Ordinance 2019-32

How Much Paid Time Off Do Employees Accrue?

- Any employee who performs at least 56 hours of work for an employer whose physical premises is located in the unincorporated part of Bernalillo County will accrue one hour of paid time off for every 32 hours worked.
- Employees begin accruing paid time off on the 1st day of employment or the first day of the effective date of the ordinance if they are already employed.
- From October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, employers subject to the ordinance are required to provide employees up to 28 hours of paid time off unless the employer's policy provides for a higher limit on use and accrual.

When and How Can Employees Use Paid Time Off?

- Employers will advise employees how they can make a request for paid time off, either at the effective date of the ordinance, or the first day of employee's hire, whichever is first.
- Employees can start using paid time off on the 90th day of employment or 90 calendar days after the effective date of the ordinance if the employee is already hired.
- An employer shall permit an employee to utilize the earned paid time off for any purpose.

Helpful Links:

<https://www.bernco.gov/planning/employee-wellness-act.aspx>

Retaliation or discrimination against an employee who requests and/or uses paid time is prohibited. An employee can file a complaint against an employer who retaliates or discriminates against the employee or who fails to provide required paid leave.

For more information, contact:
Community Services Division Offices: (505) 468-7343 deputycountymgr_communityservices.gov

For more information visit www.bernco.gov

Bernalillo County CARE Campus Licensed for Crisis Triage Services

The Bernalillo County Department of Behavioral Health Services is proud to receive a permanent crisis triage center (CTC) license from the New Mexico Department of Health. The county is the second recipient of this CTC licensure in the State of New Mexico, and the only active license within the county.



The crisis triage center is located at the CARE campus at 5901 Zuni Rd SE, formerly known as the Metropolitan Addiction and Treatment Services center. This license will allow the county to provide crisis stabilization services. These services help close the gap between the needs of patients with outpatient and acute care needs.

These new services are designed as a step-up or step-down in care, as it helps people before their crisis gets to the point where psychiatric hospitalization is needed or as they transition from a hospital back into the community.

Commissioner Steven Michael Quezada talks himself into taking the 2020 Census as the Sept. 30 deadline approaches.

[Take the Census Now](#)



i COUNT NM
i count because i care

[Commissioners Approve Disaster Relief Aid](#)

\$1.4 million in programming for indigent families

Bernalillo County commissioners have approved an administrative resolution that establishes the Bernalillo County Disaster Assistance Program. This resolution allows the county manager to enter into service agreements related to the Disaster Assistance Program.

The program will be administered by the county manager through the Economic Development Department and allows the distribution of one-time financial assistance to aid county residents who have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and are ineligible to receive money under the CARES Act.



To qualify for assistance under the Disaster Assistance Program, an applicant must be a county resident, didn't qualify for a federal stimulus check, doesn't qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, and meets the definition of indigent as set forth in the resolution.

The amount of assistance per person has not yet been determined and information about qualification criteria, application process, and timeline will be posted on the county website at a future date.

Behavioral Health Provider CARES Grant Application Deadline Extended to Sept. 30



The Department of Behavioral Health Services extends the application deadline for behavioral health providers who wish to apply for emergency financial support through the Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Provider CARES Grant. This grant is for qualified behavioral health providers to assist with costs associated with interruption caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The county has awarded over \$279,000 to behavioral health providers in the community. These funds have been infused in the community to help providers

affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the issuance of these funds, Bernalillo County hopes to:

- Increase the access of behavioral health care services to Bernalillo County residents from behavioral health providers during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Expand services to minimize the behavioral health impact of COVID-19 among Bernalillo County residents;
- Ensure that behavioral health provider systems have the capacity to handle COVID-19 impacted clients through an expansion of services to address new needs related to the pandemic and the rapid demand for services.

Through this program, the county will offer one-time grants up to \$10,000 to qualifying behavioral health providers covering costs such as employee wages, vendor bills and telehealth expansions. One million dollars has been allocated for this fund, which is available as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act federal stimulus package.

The application process will close on Sept. 30, 2020 5 p.m. or until funds have been exhausted. First grant payment will go out mid to late October. Visit the application online at www.bernco.gov/BHcares.

El Camino Real National Historic Trail Conceptual Plan

We are asking for the community's input to:

- Identify sites located along the historic route that can be developed for the public to visit, experience, and learn about the National Historic Trail.
- Identify preferred routes for a multi-modal trail following the historic alignment.

Bernalillo County, the City of Albuquerque, the National Park Service, and The University of New Mexico have partnered to prepare a conceptual plan that outlines a vision for the development of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail within Bernalillo County.

Please use the following link to watch the video, view maps, and provide feedback: <https://www.camino-bernco.com/>

How should we develop trails and historic sites along El Camino Real?

Visit camino-bernco.com to learn more and submit your feedback.

¿Cómo debemos desarrollar senderos y sitios históricos en su comunidad?

Visita camino-bernco.com para obtener más información y envíe sus comentarios.



El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL Development Concept Plan



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Got Questions About the 2020 General Election?

Get answers to your 2020 General Election questions by visiting the Bernalillo County Clerk's Frequently-Asked Questions page [here](#).



Wondering about how to request an absentee ballot? Questions about deadlines? Check out these FAQs to see if we've got the answers you need. Happy Voting!

[Request an Absentee Application at BerncoVotes.org](http://BerncoVotes.org)

2020 General Election Key Dates

- Sept. 14, 2020 – Clerk mails absentee application to all registered voters
- Oct. 6, 2020 – Clerks begin mailing absentee ballots to voters who have requested them.
- Oct. 6-16, 2020 – In-person Absentee Voting/Same Day Registration at Clerk's Annex.
- Oct. 17-31, 2020 – Early Voting/Same Day Registration
- Oct. 20, 2020 – Deadline for clerk to receive mailed absentee applications.
- Oct. 27, 2020 – Recommended final day for voters to mail absentee ballots.
- Nov. 3, 2020 – Election Day
 - Absentee ballots must arrive by 7 p.m.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey

The City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, in collaboration with the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, the Village of Tijeras, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD),

and the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) is updating its *Hazard Mitigation Plan*, in an effort to be better prepared in the event of natural, or human-caused disasters. The multi-agency task force wants to identify ways to reduce losses and protect the communities from hazard events. The agencies are seeking input from the public through a short, five-question, online Hazard Mitigation Survey to help better understand vulnerabilities, experiences, and opportunities to reduce the impacts of hazards before they occur. Responses will be taken until Sept. 30, 2020.

English: <https://bit.ly/HMP2020PublicSurvey>
Spanish: https://bit.ly/Encuesta_publicaHMP2020

Take the Survey

Reoccurring events in Sept.

Mile-Hi Farmers' Market

Sundays 10am – 1pm

July 5 – Sept. 27, 2020

Alvarado Park
2000 Alvarado Dr. N.E.



Join Us in the Neighborhood

Farm-fresh Produce ~ Baked Foods ~ Jerky
Carvings, Jewelry, Pottery, Soaps, Lotions
and many other wonderful goods!

COVID – 19 precautions



NMSU Cooperative Extension Service

Ready, Set, Grow!

Free Webinar Gardening Series

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month
starting September 2nd at 3:00 pm.

Register Online

<https://desertblooms.nmsu.edu/ready-set-grow.html>

Featuring many guest speakers and hosted by Sara Moran and John Garlich of Bernalillo County Extension, Suzanne DeVos-Cole of Mora County Extension, and Marisa Thompson of the NMSU Department of Extension Plant Sciences.

For more information, email us at

desertblooms@nmsu.edu or

contact John Garlich at 505-243-1386

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact John Garlich in advance at 505-243-1386 or Garlich@nmsu.edu.

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

The Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services is excited to collaborate with Covia Well Connected to present:

Books, Movies, Games & More!

FREE Phone and Online Groups for Seniors 60+



Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services (OSSS) is pleased to work with Well Connected, a nationwide senior program. Visit Well Connected at <https://covia.org/services/well-connected/> and call 877.797.7299 or email coviaconnections@covia.org to register today!

Interested in volunteering to facilitate a group? Contact OSSS@bernco.gov to learn more.

Visit and like the Office of Senior and Social Services (OSSS) Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/BernCoOSSS>



Programs supported by Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services

Book to Movie Discussion

Wednesdays, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and Dec. 16 | 4 - 5 pm

Each month the group will read and discuss a story and its movie adaptation. Was the movie true to the story, or not? We'll discuss the following:

- The Curious Case of Benjamin Button by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The movie stars Brad Pitt (September).
- Fences, a stage play by August Wilson. The movie stars Denzel Washington and Viola Davis (October).
- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. The movie is titled Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, and stars Robert DeNiro (November).
- The Gift of the Magi by D. Henry. The most recent movie stars Maria Sokoloff and Mark Webber (December).

You can find the movies on streaming services such as Amazon Prime, Google Play, Netflix or YouTube. Facilitated by Staci Miceli, Community Program Enhancement Specialist, Bernalillo County Office of Senior & Social Services

Bingo Wednesdays

Sept. 2 and 16, Oct. 7 and 21, Nov. 4 and 18,
Dec. 2 and 16 | 10 - 11 am

Bingo Saturdays

Sept. 5 – Dec. 26 | 10 - 11 am (beginners)
11 am - Noon (advanced)

Bingo? On the telephone? You bet! Join us for the classic game of chance and a few variations. Call Well Connected to request Bingo cards, including cards in Braille: (877) 797-7299.



Facilitated by Brenda Cisneros-Fernandez, Public Health Specialist, Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services (Wednesday) and Janice Rooker (Saturday)



Trivial Pursuit: Genus Edition

Every Tuesday, Sept. 1 - Dec. 29 | 4:30 - 5 pm

In the pursuit of trivial knowledge, the group will embark on a virtual game of Trivial Pursuit and compete to know the most about geography, entertainment, history, art & literature, science & nature, and sports & leisure.

Facilitated by Amber Carroll, Director of Covia Well Connected, and Brenda Cisneros-Fernandez, Public Health Specialist, Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services, and Eleana V.



Teeniors and the Value of Human Connection

Tuesday, October 6 | Noon - 1 pm

Teeniors® are tech-savvy young people who help older adults learn technology through one-on-one, personalized coaching. Whether it's a smartphone, tablet, computer or software - the goal is to empower older adults to connect with their loved ones, engage with their communities, and the world, through technology - while providing paid, meaningful jobs for youth, showing how the power of human connection all over the world brings change to our communities.

Facilitated by Amber Carroll, Director of Covia Well Connected, and Trish Lopez, Teeniors NM Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services

THERE IS NO POOP FAIRY SCOOP YOUR POOP



**GRAB IT
BAG IT
TOSS IT**

BERNALILLO COUNTY
WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK

Recent BernCo News Releases

(click each news release below to read in full)

[BernCo Commission Passes Ordinance to Create Sheriff's Office Advisory and Review Board](#)

Sept. 23, 2020 – At Sept. 22 administrative meeting, the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance creating a Sheriff's Office Advisory and Review Board.

[Bernalillo County Public Works Division to Begin Storm Culvert Replacement in East Mountains](#)

Sept. 22, 2020 – Bernalillo County will be replacing a storm drain culvert at the entrance of Rubens Road off of Frost Road in the East Mountains.

Thank you for reading BernCo at a Glance

For assistance, please contact:

- Metropolitan Detention Center (general inmate info): (505) 839-8700
- Roads and traffic: (505) 848-1504 or (505) 848-1503
- Animal Care Services: (505) 468-PETS
- Property Maintenance (report a park or facility that needs cleanup): (505) 224-2119
- Schedule a large item pick-up: (505) 892-1200
- Department of Behavioral Health Services customer service: (505) 468-1555
- Court of Wills, Estates and Probate (general info): (505) 468-1232
 - Schedule an appointment: call (505) 468-1229 or email, probate@bernco.gov
- Unclaimed & Indigent Cremation Program: (505) 468-7295
- Accounts Payable general inquiries: (505) 468-7020
- All other calls: (505) 468-7777 or email, contactcenter@bernco.gov

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- [Glyphosate Moratorium](#)

Website: www.BernCo.gov | Email: info@BernCo.gov